

## Message Text

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63

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SAM-01 OMB-01 ACDA-10 /089 W

----- 110189

R 050915Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7405

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1495

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MARR, EG, IS, JO, XF

SUBJ: REACTION TO NEW INTERIM AGREEMENT

1. SUMMARY. EAST JERUSALEM ARABIC PRESS REFLECTS MIXED REACTION OF WEST BANK/EAST JERUSALEM ARABS TO SECOND EGYPT-ISRAEL INTERIM AGREEMENT. LEADING INDEPENDENT AL QUDS EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING ARAB UNITY AND CREDITS SADAT ASSURANCES THAT AGREEMENT IS ONLY FIRST STEP TOWARD SOLUTION ME CONFLICT. LEFTIST AL FAJR AND PRO-LIBYAN AL-SHAAB ATTACK AGREEMENT FOR IGNORING PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. LATTER CALLS IT FIRST STEP TOWARD WAR RATHER THAN PEACE. END SUMMARY.

2. REACTION OF EAST JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK ARABS TO CONCLUSION OF NEW EGYPT-ISRAEL INTERIM AGREEMENT HAS BEEN MIXED WITH VIRTUALLY ALL, HOWEVER, INDICATING SOME CONERN THAT THERE CONTINUES TO BE NO EVIDENCE THAT PEACE EFFORTS WILL FOCUS ANYTIME SOON ON PALES- UNCLASSIFIED

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TINIAN PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY FUTURE OF WEST BANK AND JERUSALEM.

LOCAL ARABIC PRESS REFLECTS DIFFERING ATTITUDES OF THOSE WHO MAY SHARE THIS CONCERN, SOME OF WHOM NEVERTHELESS RETAIN HOPE THAT NEW AGREEMENT WILL LEAD TO FURTHER STEPS, INCLUDING NEGOTIATIONS RE WEST BANK, IN RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE. OTHERS BELIEVE AGREEMENT TANTAMOUNT TO SELL-OUT OF PALESTINIANS AND WILL FREEZE SITUATION FOR EXTENDED PERIOD WHILE ISRAELIS CONTINUE TO CONSOLIDATE HOLD ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

3. LEADING INDEPENDENT DAILY AL QUDS WHICH HAS BEEN CONSISTENT IN ITS SUPPORT FOR SADAT AND CAUSE OF ARAB UNITY, IS SEPT. 2 EDITORIAL ECHOED EGYPTIAN VIEW OF AGREEMENT AS FIRST STEP TOWARD MED SOLUTION AND PROOF OF US INTENTION TO SOLVE CONFLICT. IT ARGUES THAT ACCORD WEAKENS ISRAEL POLITICALLY AND MILITARILY AND URGES ARABS TO BUILD ON SACRIFICES OF AN UNITY ACHIEVED IN OCTOBER 1973 WAR. ALTERNATIVE TO THIS PATH AND TO ACCEPTANCE OF INTERIM AGREEMENT WOULD BE RETURN TO STAGNATION OF 1967-73, ACCORDING TO EDITORIAL. SEPT. 3, EDITORIAL CONTINUES THEME OF NEED FOR ARAB SOLIDARITY, ". MOST PRECIOUS OUTOCOME OF OCTOBER WAR." IT SUPPORTS CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM, AS OPPOSED TO EXCHANGE OF ACCUSATIONS, AS SIGN OF LIFE AND VITALITY, AND URGES AN ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE TO PUT END TO DISPUTES.

4. LEFTISH AL FAJR ATTACKS AGREEMENT FOR FAILURE TO MENTION PALESTINIANS OR RESOLUTION 242 (WHICH IT NOTES CALLED FOR SOLUTION OF REFUGEE PROBLEM.) IN EDITORIALS SEPT 2 AND 3 IT CONTENDS THAT PRESIDENT FORD IGNORES PALESTINIANS AND THAT ALTHOUGH SADAT APPARENTLY HOPES STEP BY STEP APPROACH WILL LEAD TO GOLAN NEGOTIATIONS, EST BANK, JERUSALEM, GAZA STRIP AND RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS NOT EVEN HINTED AT DURING KISSINGER-SADAT TALKS. IT SUGGESTS AGREEMENT CHANGES BASIC SISUATION RE GENEVA CONFERENCE, SINCE US AND ISRAEL CAN NOW GO THERE WITH EGYPT AT THEIR SIDE AND REJECT RESOLUTION 242 ON PRETEXT THAT NEW SITUATION NOW EXISTS. THIS WOULD DESTROY "UNIVERSIAL" SUPPORT FOR ARABS, SINCE EGYPT WOULD BE PORTRAYED AS MODERATE AND WISE, WHILE ARABS WHO REFUSE TO ACCEPT "NEW SITUATION" WOULD BE VIEWED AS EXTREMIST.

5. ANTI-AMERICAN, PRO-LIBYAN AL SHAAB TERMS NEW AGREEMENT FIRST STEP TOWARD WAR AND ASKS IN SEPT 3 EDITORIAL WHAT PEACE UNCLASSIFIED

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IT CAN BRING WHEN IT OVERLOOKS CAUSES OF ME PROBLEM. IT BELITTLES AGREEMENT AS CERTAIN NOT TO ACHIEVE ITS AIMS AND CLAIMS IT WILL ISOLATE EGYPT AND DESTORY ARAB UNITY.  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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